

Docket No. AUS920030467US1

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSPARENTLY SHARING AN
EXCEPTION VECTOR BETWEEN FIRMWARE AND AN OPERATING SYSTEM**

A method, apparatus and computer instructions for handling exception vectors by firmware. An exception vector is identified to form an identified exception vector when control is passed from an operating system to the firmware. The identified exception vector is saved to form a saved exception vector. The identified exception vector is then replaced with a substitute vector; and the saved exception vector is restored when control is returned to the operating system to form a restored exception vector. At that point, the restored exception vector is again used to perform error and debugging processes.